



**USDA, APHIS, PPQ
Pest Detection and Management Programs
4700 River Road, Unit 137
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January 27, 2004 PROGRAM UPDATE:

***Ralstonia solanacearum* race 3 biovar 2: New Detection**

PPQ and State regulatory officials are continuing to hold, destroy and dispose of the three geranium varieties produced at a Guatemalan production facility that are potentially infected with *Ralstonia solanacearum* race 3 biovar 2.

APHIS scientists positively confirmed *Ralstonia solanacearum* race 3 biovar 2 in a water effluent sample collected from geraniums on January 13, 2004, from the same Guatemalan geranium production facility from which the three Americana varieties are being sought and destroyed.

An APHIS scientist will be in Guatemala during the week of January 26 to apply the water testing protocol developed during his previous visit.

Nationally, 41 states have a total of 458 suspect facilities, 362 facilities are currently being held, 79 control actions (destruction, disposal and disinfection) are complete, 68 facilities have been released, and more than 529,000 cuttings or plants have been destroyed, as of January 26.

The 2004 *Ralstonia* action plan is available at:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/ep/ralstonia/rasltoniaactionplanv4web.pdf>

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